

## Akron Town Council Meeting September 20, 2021

Present: Jim Saner, President; Rich Solano, Vice-President; Tony Rameriz, Member; Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer; Aaron Gearhart, Superintendent; Jake Gearhart, Assistant Superintendent; Justin Gearhart, Marshal; Andy Perkins, Attorney

The meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The public hearing on the 2022 proposed budget was opened & no public comment was heard. Proposed budget is \$973,113. Jim made a motion to close the public hearing. Rich 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes Meeting was closed at 6:05 p.m.

Rich made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2021, meeting as written. Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

### **Business:**

Rebecca notified the council she submitted the IPEP Safety Grant for the police department and street department. The police department requested body armor and the street department was PPE, barricades, and signage. The deadline to submit the application is October 1<sup>st</sup>. Communities will be notified in November if they were selected.

Rebecca notified the group that Akron was not selected as a recipient for IFA's SWIF grant. Commonwealth Engineers were going to reach out to IFA to see what could strengthen our application for round 2 in 2022.

**Marshal's Report:** Incident report was presented. The Durango is scheduled to ship on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, once received will go to CopsGear to be properly equipped. The department purchased a refurbished Taser for \$610 as the current Taser is no longer working, it was 10+ years old. Deputy Marshal Lawson is enrolled in the academy and is set to begin this winter. Laura Bickel reached out regarding the Food Pantry moving to the Methodist Church and traffic. Justin is working with the organization to make sure safe traffic procedures are in place before the pantry opens in October. Justin spoke with Jackie Hook, trailer park today regarding tenant situations his department has been dealing with lately. Trick or Treat date and time is set for Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM.

**Water Dept:** 4 Data Logger Reports were completed this month. A large water leak by the Frontier Building on South SR19/Mishawaka was an 8" main that doesn't have a shutoff valve. We called an outside company with a large vac truck to come and assist in the repair. Due to this leak, the gas station was put on a boil advisory since they lost significant pressure. Samples were collected on September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and were notified on September 17<sup>th</sup> that samples

were clear, and the boil advisory was cancelled. Jake and Aaron attended a field trip with the apprenticeship program in Kendallville to see their Water Plant. Sonoco has installed their new 8" water main. We are waiting on them to finish their side to perform a pressure test and sample the line. Hydrophase did submit our Wellhead Protection Plan to IDEM. A meter at 314 Saner Drive was replaced due to being hit by lightning. A small water leak at 403 W Rochester Street at the meter has been resolved. We used roughly 204,600 gallons of water at the main break & approximately 183,300 gallons at the Fear fire.

**Sewer Dept:** Aaron informed the council that we are unable to discharge at the lagoons due to the creek level too low, however we still have plenty of room to hold. The drainage tile in the backyard of 403 W Rochester St which collapsed has been repaired.

**Street Dept:** Tree trimming throughout town has started. Sam Knight with Gaunt & Son hopes to start the CCMG paving project the end of September. The 15-minute parking sign as been reinstalled by Subway.

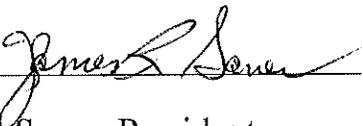
**Miscellaneous:** A total of five 811 locates were completed this month. New LED lights were installed on the west pavilion, 3 at east pavilion and 3 at restroom facility at Pike Memorial Park. The power for the light at the War Memorial/Flagpole is not working and will be repaired with the assistance of DeLynn Geiger.

Andy discussed with the council about creating a policy for the use of electronic meeting requirements once the public health emergency ends.

Jim made a motion to approve the Dockets for \$111,180.02. Rich 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 18, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

Jim made a motion to adjourn at 6:57 p.m. Rich 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

  
Jim Saner, President

  
Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer